

**REMARKS:**

In the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 1-5, 9, 11 and 15-20 and rejected claim 21. Claim 21 is amended herein, and claims 6-8 and 12-14 remain withdrawn. No new matter is presented. Thus, claims 1-21 are pending and under consideration. The rejections are traversed below.

**REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102(b):**

Claim 21 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,101,020 (Ori) and U.S. Patent No. 5,410,563 (Nakamura).

Ori is directed to a collimating lens including a zone plate diffractive optical surface (see, column 3, lines 45-54), where if the zone plate diffractive optical surface is formed on the collimating lens, the lens power will be a composite of refractive/diffractive optical power (see, column 5, lines 35-43). The Ori image-forming optical system (6) is formed of two lenses that collect the laser beam reflected and polarized by an optical scanner/polarizer (5) onto a scanning target (see, col. 3, line 55 through col. 4, line 5).

Nakamura is directed to a collimator lens system having a Fresnel lens surface disposed on the side at which a laser beam enters, and a spherical lens surface disposed at the side at which said laser beam exits (see, col. 3, lines 43-47), where the said Fresnel lens surface and condenser lens surface are formed (see, col. 8, lines 20-25).

Independent claim 21 as amended recites that the collimating lens of the present invention is "made of a single lens" and includes, "a refraction surface provided on one side" and "a diffraction surface provided on an opposite side", where "a power variation of the refraction surface is offset by a power variation of the diffraction surface by adjusting a power of the diffraction surface relative to a power of the refraction surface and the refraction surface is provided closer to a light source than the diffraction surface".

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

**ENTRY OF AMENDMENT TO CLAIM 21:**

It is respectfully submitted that entry of this Amendment will place the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, although the Office Action was made Final, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered.

**CONCLUSION:**

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

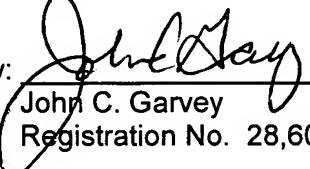
If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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